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The East Kent (No. 2)
United District

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1947

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JOINT COMMITTEE.

Eastry Rural District:

A. H. HOLNESS.
 T. HUME.
 Rev. Fr. T. A. KENIRY.

Dover Rural District:

F. P. KING (Chairman).
 E. C. MAY.

Clerk: CHAS. EVANS,
 Council Offices,
 Dover Road,
 Sandwich, Kent.

STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health:

T. J. NICHOLL, F.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspectors:

Eastry Rural District:

R. J. MEACHER, Whole-time Senior Sanitary Inspector.
 A. HILTON, Whole-time District Sanitary Inspector.

Dover Rural District:

W. O. ARMSTRONG, Whole-time Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Clerk to the Medical Officer of Health:

MISS KATHLEEN LAWRENCE.

**To the Chairman and Members of the Joint Committee of the East Kent
(No. 2) United District.**

I have the honour to submit for your information and consideration the Annual Report on the health services of the United District for the year 1947.

The report is compiled in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health and shows that the General health of the population has been maintained at a satisfactory level. The birth-rate in the United District during 1947 was 22.4 per 1000 of the population. This was higher than that recorded for the previous year (21.5).

The death rate of 12.3 per 1000 was higher than that for England and Wales (12.0).

The infant mortality rate of 42.9 per 1000 live births was higher than that for 1946 (34.9) and higher than that recorded for England and Wales (41). Of the 28 infantile deaths notified 19 belonged to the Eastry Rural District—7 of which were assigned from areas outside of the District—and 9 to Dover Rural.

Of these deaths, Congenital Mal-development accounted for 46.4% and Prematurity 38.5%. Of these two principal contributory causes, although little can be done to rectify nature's defects in the first cause, much can be done to save the premature infant. This condition is brought about by several factors, either acting singly or combined, e.g., frequent pregnancies, over work, mental strain, insufficient nourishment, toxæmia, syphilis, and tuberculosis. The premature child is one that has succeeded in reaching the stage of a separate existence from the mother. Due to good luck and care it has escaped being a stillbirth, but for its survival it needs constant care and supervision. The premature child is a problem that will have to be seriously considered if we are to delete it from the causes of infant mortality.

During the year, with the exception of measles (185 cases), there was a low incidence of Zymotic diseases. Six cases were notified as suffering from diphtheria—Eastry Rural 5, Dover Rural 1. Five of these cases occurred in non-immunised children, resulting in one death. This is to be regretted seeing that there is every facility for parents to have their children protected from this lurking infection. At the end of the year the percentage of the child population protected against diphtheria was as follows—Eastry Rural District 72.84%, Dover Rural District 45.9%. That immunisation has had a marked effect in reducing the mortality in this disease throughout the country is shown by the annual death returns. In 1941 there were 2,641 deaths—in 1946 472 deaths.

With my report are incorporated the reports of the Senior Sanitary Inspectors, and I should like to take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the help and co-operation I have received from them in the performance of my duty.

In conclusion I should like to acknowledge gratefully the valuable help I have received from the Clerk to the Joint Committee—Mr. C. R. Evans, and my secretary, Miss Lawrence, in the compilation of this report.

T. J. NICHOLL.
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area.

The United District is bounded on the north by the sea between Herne Bay and Margate Borough and the boundary of Margate Borough, on the East by the Boundary of Ramsgate Borough, the sea between Ramsgate Borough and Deal Borough, the boundary of Deal Borough, and the sea between Deal Borough and Dover Borough, on the south by the boundary of Dover Borough, the sea between Dover Borough and Folkestone Borough, and on the West by the boundaries of the Rural Districts of Elham and Bridge Blean. The Borough of Sandwich is enclosed by the Eastry Rural District.

The surface is irregularly undulating and is traversed by the Rivers Stour and Dour. The District is highest at the North and South parts and lowest in the marsh land in the vicinity of the Stour.

District.	Acres including Inland Water	Population Census, 1931	POPULATION 1947
Dover R.D. 	26,098	8,945	9,145
Eastry R.D. 	54,276	22,050	19,850
East Kent (No. 2) United District 	80,374	30,995	28,995

EAST KENT (No. 2) UNITED DISTRICT.

Causes of Death in Year 1947.

Causes of Death.	Dover		R.D.		Eastry		R.D.		United Dist.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
All Causes	62	50	...	120	116	...	182	166		
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2	—	...	4	1	...	6	1		
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	—	—	...	2	3	...	2	3		
Diphtheria	—	—	...	1	—	...	1	—		
Syphilitic Diseases	1	1	...	2	1	...	3	2		
Influenza	1	—	...	—	—	...	1	—		
Cancer of Buc.-Cav. (Male)	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—		
Cancer of Uterus (Female)	—	—	...	—	1	...	—	1		
Cancer of Stomach & Duodenum	4	1	...	7	—	...	11	1		
Cancer of Breast	—	3	...	—	5	...	—	8		
Cancer of all other Sites	7	7	...	8	11	...	15	18		
Diabetes	1	—	...	—	—	...	1	—		
Intra-Cranial Hæmorrhage	7	11	...	10	8	...	17	19		
Heart Disease	20	13	...	38	39	...	58	52		
Other Diseases of Circ. System	3	1	...	3	2	...	6	3		
Bronchitis	—	3	2	...	10	3	...	13	5	
Pneumonia	—	2	—	...	2	4	...	4	4	
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	—	...	2	1	...	3	1		
Ulcer (Stomach or Duodenum)	1	—	...	1	1	...	2	1		
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	—	1	...	1	1	...	1	2		
Other Digestive Diseases	—	1	...	5	2	...	5	3		
Nephritis	2	4	...	5	3	...	7	7		
Premature Birth	1	—	...	2	5	...	3	5		
Congenital Causes	3	3	...	2	7	...	5	10		
Other Maternal Causes	—	2	...	—	1	...	—	3		
Suicide	—	—	...	1	1	...	1	1		
Road Traffic Accidents	—	—	...	3	1	...	3	1		
Other Violent Causes	—	—	...	4	4	...	4	4		
All Other Causes	3	—	...	7	11	...	10	11		

Of the total deaths, Heart Disease accounted for 31.03%, Cancer 15.5%, Pulmonary Tuberculosis 2.01%, Intra-Cranial Hæmorrhage 10.34%.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Hospitals.

(1) Isolation Hospitals.—The Eastry Isolation Hospital was re-opened in June, 1940, for the reception of infectious cases from the Boroughs of Sandwich, Deal and Dover, and the United District. It was closed on December 31st, 1946, and cases from the Eastry Rural District are now sent to the Isolation Hospital at Haine—those occurring in the Dover Rural District to the Dover Isolation Hospital.

(2) General.—There are no General Hospitals in the District. During the war the Royal Victoria Hospital, Dover, was evacuated to Waldershare Park, which is situated on the border between Dover Rural District and Eastry Rural District, but returned to Dover on the cessation of hostilities. Cases from the different areas requiring treatment are admitted to the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Margate and Ramsgate General Hospitals, and the Dover Hospital.

Ambulance Facilities.

(a) Infectious Cases.—The Isolation Hospital at Haine has its own ambulance. Deal and Dover also possess an ambulance for transporting this class of case.

(b) Non-Infectious Cases.—There is no ambulance in the District for conveyance of non-infectious cases, but ambulances for this purpose can be obtained on hire from the neighbouring towns.

The three collieries in the District have their own ambulances.

Laboratory Facilities.

Clinical material for examination is submitted to the County Laboratory, Maidstone, as are samples of milk, water, sewage, etc.

Nursing in the Home.

No special arrangements have been made by the Authorities for this in the District. Health Visitors employed by the County visit in the District, as also do the Queen's Nurses.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

The County Authorities arrange for maternity and child welfare work, the treatment of school children, and for the treatment of cases of Tuberculosis and Venereal Disease at clinics throughout the District.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1947. (Civilian Cases Only.)

Disease	Total		Cases		Total
	Cases	Notified.	Admitted	Total	
		to Hospital.	Deaths.		
Scarlet Fever	19	14	—
Diphtheria	6	6	1
Pneumonia	26	—	8
*Polio-Myelitis	1	1	—
Measles	185	6	—
Whooping Cough	50	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	—
Erysipelas	4	1	—
Meningitis	1	1	—

*This case of Polio-Myelitis was a belated notification. The patient, a man aged 45, was under treatment at hospital for weakness in the left arm when the cause of his disability was diagnosed.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during the Year 1947.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary.		Non- Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non- Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
10	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
15	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	3	1	—	—	—	1	1	—
25	3	5	1	—	1	—	—	1
35	2	2	—	—	—	—	1	1
45	4	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
55	2	1	—	1	3	—	—	1
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	18	10	3	3	6	1	2	3

Thirty-four cases of Tuberculosis were notified for the first time during the year as compared with 19 the previous year. Of this number 28 were of the Pulmonary type.

Cases of Tuberculosis remaining on the Register December 31st, 1938, and December 31st, 1947.

	MALE.				FEMALE.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	1938	1947	1938	1947	1938	1947	1938	1947
Dover R. D.	23	45	5	11	13	45	9	12
Eastry R. D.	43	107	19	31	43	64	33	42
United District ...	66	152	24	42	56	109	42	54

No action has been taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, nor under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, in the United District.

It will be observed from the above table that there has been a decided increase in the number of cases of Tuberculosis in the United District during the past nine years.

EASTRY RURAL DISTRICT.**SECTION A.****STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.****Area:**

The District is bounded as follows: On the north by the sea between Herne Bay and Margate, and by part of the boundary of Margate; on the East by the boundary of Ramsgate, the sea, the boundary of Deal, and part of the Dover R.D.; on the South by the boundary of the Dover R.D.; and on the West by the boundary of the Bridge-Blean R.D. The surface of the District is irregularly undulating, and is traversed by the River Stour. It is highest at its North and South parts, and lowest in the Marsh area in the vicinity of the River Stour. The main part of the Kent Coal Field underlies the district, and coal is being worked at Bettleshanger, Snowdown and Tilmanstone Collieries.

Area (including Inland Water), Acres 54,276.

Population, estimated 1947, 19,850.

Number of inhabited houses, 5,966.

Rateable Value, £98,006.

Sum represented by 1d. Rate, £377 8s. 10d.

Density of Population, Persons per Acre, 0.36.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

(1) Births:

(2) Deaths:

Net total deaths in 1947 236 120 116
 Death Rate (per 1000 population) = 11.8.
 England and Wales = 12.
 Deaths from Puerperal Causes, nil.

(3) Infantile Mortality:

Infant Mortality:

	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	17	5	12
Illegitimate	2	1	1

Infantile mortality rate (per 1000 live births) = 45.4.
 England and Wales (per 1000 live births) = 41.

Cause of Death	Under 1 week		1-2 weeks		2-3 weeks		3-4 weeks		Total under 1 month		1-3 months		3-6 months		6-9 months		9-12 months		Total
	
Prematurity	7	—	—	—	—	—	7	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	
Congenital Mal-Development	...	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	5	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	
Asphyxia Lividia	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Broncho-Pneumonia	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Tubercular Meningitis	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Gastro-Enteritis	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	
Total	12	2	—	—	—	—	14	...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 19	

(4) Deaths from:

Cancer (all ages) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Measles (all ages) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

EASTRY RURAL DISTRICT.

Causes of Death in the Year 1947.

Causes of Death.					Males.	Females.
All Causes	...	...	...	...	120	116
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	1	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	4	1
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	2	3
Syphilitic Disease	...	...	...	...	2	1
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	...	...	7	—
Cancer of Breast	...	...	...	...	—	5
Cancer of Uterus	...	...	...	...	—	1
Cancer of all other Sites	...	...	...	...	8	11
Intra-Cranial Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	10	8
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	38	39
Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	...	3	2
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	10	3
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	2	4
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	2	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	...	...	1	1
Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	1	1
Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	...	5	2
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	5	3
Premature Births	...	...	...	...	2	5
Congenital Causes	...	...	...	...	2	7
Other Maternal Causes	...	...	...	...	—	1
Suicide	...	...	...	...	1	1
Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	...	...	3	1
Other Violent Causes	...	...	...	...	4	4
All other Causes	...	...	...	...	7	11

Of the total deaths, Heart Disease accounted for 32.6%, Cerebral Hæmorrhage 7.6%, and Cancer 13.5%.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

The progress back to a peace-time working basis has been, as in most walks of life, disappointingly slow, and, although work has gone on in spite of difficulties, there is nothing of outstanding mention in the year's work.

Housing.

The first instalment of post-war houses (50) was largely completed during the year, and, in the case of the second instalment (about 200 houses), preliminary work has commenced on most of the sites. These houses will, in accordance with Government policy, be ear-marked principally for the needs of agriculture and coal mining.

The completion of war damage repairs and of new houses in the adjacent towns has enabled some of those who came into the district during the war to "return home," and the housing shortage, although still somewhat acute, is, I think, a little easier than it was last year.

The work of repair at existing houses has still had to be kept at a bare minimum.

Sewerage.

No sanction for proposed schemes has been received, and it seems likely that a proposed system for Worth and extensions at Ash and the Walmer end of Ripple will have to be postponed for some time to come. It is hoped, however, that the public inquiries in connection with the schemes for Eastry and Wingham will be held during the coming year and that it will be possible to commence work.

Scavenging.

The second cesspool emptier has not yet been delivered by the makers — there will be no lack of work for it when it does come to hand.

A third refuse-collection vehicle has been ordered to meet the demands of the growing district and to give a better service in areas where this is justified.

A fair amount of material has been salvaged and disposed of, but the amount of waste paper tends to drop.

Rodent Control.

The survey of the Council's area was completed during the year and much good work done in clearing up infestations which were located as a result.

A test of the sewers throughout the district revealed one very small infestation (at Minster) only. This was dealt with effectively.

The Ministry's recommended methods of control continue to produce good results, and letters of appreciation of the work of the staff have been received from several sources.

Generally.

The members of the staff of the department have shown their customary co-operation and helpfulness throughout the year, and I conclude by expressing my best thanks to them.

R. J. MEACHER, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Water Supply.

The position with regard to the water supply in the Rural District compares very favourably with the supply in Rural Districts in the country as a whole, a piped supply being available to approximately 95% of the premises. The houses without a piped supply are scattered and in isolated positions. Proposals for the supply of additional premises were under consideration during the year.

The greater part of the Rural District is served by (a) the East Kent District Water Company and (b) the Margate Corporation. The Parish of Minster is served by the Ramsgate Corporation and the District Council are themselves the statutory undertakers for the Parishes of St. Nicholas and Sarre and parts of the Parishes of Wingham and Goodnestone.

Quarterly reports from the laboratory on samples taken from the various Companies' supply show that the water is quite satisfactory.

During the year five samples of well water were sent to the County Laboratory for chemical examination, and the reports showed two of them to be unfit for drinking.

Drainage and Sewerage.

There are four main sewerage schemes in operation throughout the Rural Districts: (a) Aylesham, (b) Ash, (c) Minster, and (d) Elvington.

Smaller systems are in operation for (a) Snowdown, (b) Bettleshanger Colliery Village, and (c) Sandwich Bay. Premises in Goodnestone are connected to the trunk sewer between Aylesham and Wingham.

In view of the considerations described in Circular 87/47 from the Ministry of Health, the Council reluctantly came to the conclusion that they had no alternative but to defer the scheme for the eastern part of Ash as well as two other schemes that were in preparation, viz.: for the Parish of Worth and for part of the Parish of Ripple. It was decided, however, to press for permission to proceed with the schemes for Eastry and Wingham on the grounds of urgency.

Public Cleansing.

The Council undertakes the collection and removal of domestic refuse. The method of disposal is by controlled tipping at Poison Cross, near Eastry. The emptying of cesspools, and contents of pails is carried out under direct labour, a modern mechanical vehicle being employed for this important section of the work. The work is carried out under the supervision of the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Salvage.

This is under the supervision of the Senior Sanitary Inspector, who reports on the year's work as follows:—

Amount of salvage materials sold during 1947:—

			Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.	...	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	...	...	41	14	0	0	...	179	17	11
Bones	...	...	1	9	1	21	...	8	9	9
Scrap Iron	...	...	9	1	0	0	...	13	12	6
N.F. Metal	...	...	0	13	2	6	...	18	7	10
Rags, etc.	...	...	1	19	2	6	...	37	15	0
Bottles and Jars	...	...	16	15	0	0	...	150	2	6
Rabbits Skins	...	...			9 dozen		...	1	1	0
 Total	...	...	72	1	2	5	...	409	6	6

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

- (1) No. of Inspections made during the year, 2,800.
- (2) No. of Notices served: Statutory, nil; Informal, 36.
- (3) Nuisances found or reported during the year:

Keeping of Animals	...	...	...	3
Sanitary Accommodation	...	...	...	1
Drainage	...	...	...	17
Cesspools	...	...	...	19
Refuse	...	...	...	3
Tents, Vans, and Sheds	...	...	...	7
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	4

Verminous Premises.

Eleven houses were disinfected.

Hop-Pickers' Camps.

There are eight hop-pickers' camps in the area. Sixteen routine inspections were carried out, and minor defects found were remedied. No outbreak of infectious diseases occurred in the camps during the season.

Factories Act, 1937.

- 1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health:—

Premises.	—Number of—			
	On Register.	Written Inspections.	Written Notices.	—
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	...	40	76	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities	...	30	70	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	...	—	—	—
Total	...	70	146	—

- 2.—Cases in which defects were found:—

Particulars.	—Number of Defects—			
	Found.	Remedied.	Inspector.	—
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	...	6	6	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	...	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	...	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	...	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)	—			
Unsuitable or defective	...	3	3	—
Other offences	...	—	—	—
Total	...	9	9	—

Shops Act, 1934.

One hundred and thirty inspections were made under this Act during the year, and advice given in regard to lighting, ventilation, and temperature where necessary. Sanitary accommodation has been insisted upon. No formal action has been necessary.

Offensive Trades.

There is one horse-slaughtering business in the area. No complaints were received in regard to it, and minor defects were remedied.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919. Infestation Order, 1943.

The Rodent Officer reports as follows:—

At the beginning of 1947 survey work was carried out throughout the Eastry Rural District area under the Ministry of Food special Dwelling-house Scheme 1946-47, and altogether 511 rat infestations were located throughout the district. These consisted of:

386 Dwelling-houses (many of these had rats inside the house).
125 Business premises.

These infestations were dealt with by pre-baiting, poisoning, and trapping, the Ministry of Food method being followed. Much useful information and co-operation was obtained from the public during these operations.

Many infestations were dealt with under block control methods, and inspections made two weeks after treatment proved that this method had been very satisfactory.

Estimated killed (Rats) ...	...	...	...	13,111
Bodies recovered (Rats) ...	...	...	...	1,486
Bodies recovered (Mice) ...	...	...	...	247

The Council's Refuse Tip, Sewage Works at Minster, Elvington, and Wingham have received regular treatments during the year.

The sewers at Minster, Aylesham, Elvington, and Ash have all been test-baited during the year, and, with the exception of Minster, all were found to be clear of rats.

An infestation was found to exist in the sewers at Minster, this was treated and eventually cleared. Surface infestations here were dealt with at the same time, the whole operation being very successful. Complaints dropped in this area to a minimum.

489 Inspections were carried out where there was a record of infestation.

In conclusion I would like to thank my assistant—Mr. S. Southon—for his valuable help in this work.

(Signed) B. HEARN,
Rodent Officer, Eastry R.D.C.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

In December the Housing (Executive) Committee reported on the progress of the Council's post-war Housing programme as follows:—

First Stage:

Twenty houses were completed and occupied during the year and the construction of the remaining 30 houses was well in hand at the end of the year.

Second Stage:

In view of the difficulties experienced as a result of the shortage of bricks and cement and also the shortage of bricklayers, coupled with the difficulty in obtaining tenders for traditional-type houses, the Council decided that Airey rural houses should be provided in every Parish where the number of houses required to be erected exceeded 6. In addition, it was decided to erect 46 Airey houses and 80 Aluminium (Permanent) Bungalows in the mining township of Aylesham and 20 Aluminium (Temporary) Bungalows in the mining village of Elvington.

The Council's programme at the end of the year was therefore:

Traditional-type houses	...	...	...	...	96
Airey rural houses	...	...	...	...	164
Aluminium bungalows	...	...	...	...	100
Total	...	...	...	...	360

The Council experienced unusual difficulty in obtaining tenders, satisfactory to the Ministry, for the Airey houses, but the difficulties were being overcome by the end of the year and one contract had in fact been let, the remaining contracts following early in 1948.

The position of the building programme at the end of the year was:

Houses completed	...	...	...	...	20
Houses under construction	...	...	...	...	44
Houses on approved tenders	...	...	...	...	128
Aluminium Bungalows (Permanent) on approved tenders	...	...	...	...	80
Aluminium Bungalows (Temporary) under construction	...	...	...	...	20

The Council have been in close touch with the Kent Agricultural Executive Committee with regard to the housing needs of agricultural workers and with the Divisional Office of the National Coal Board in the matter of houses for miners.

Rural Housing Survey.

During the year 93 houses were inspected and recorded.

Number of inspections made for this purpose, 106.

Total number of houses owned by the Local Authority, 224.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk.

During the year the Senior Sanitary Inspector and his staff made 233 visits to the 73 Dairies and Cow-sheds in the district; 10 defects were found and in due course remedied.

- (a) Number of producers, 37.
Number of producer retailers, 30.
Number of retailers, 6.
Number of farms licensed to produce:
 - (1) Tuberculin Tested Milk, 20.
 - (2) Accredited Milk, 20.

(b) Sixty-four samples of milk were submitted to the County Council's Laboratory for bacteriological examinations. Details of the samples submitted and results were as follows:—

- Tuberculin Tested Milk, 24 (2 unsatisfactory).
- Accredited Milk, 40 (16 unsatisfactory).
- Number of samples collected for Biological Examination, 3.

(c) Pasteurisation: One plant of the "Holder" process type is licensed for the production of Pasteurised Milk.

Two samples of Pasteurised Milk were submitted to the County Laboratory for the Phosphatase Test, and one was satisfactory.

Milk in Schools.

Inspections of herds and farm premises were made as required to ensure the suitability of the milk for this purpose.

Meat and Other Foods.

(a) The 18 slaughter-houses in the Rural District were closed down at the outbreak of war, and all routine slaughtering is carried out in the City of Canterbury, under the Ministry of Food Centralised Slaughtering Scheme.

Twenty-six pigs were slaughtered in the district during the year, the carcases being inspected by the Sanitary Inspector.

Two carcases were condemned on account of disease other than tuberculosis.

Total weight condemned was 3cwt. 2qrs. 8lb.

(b) The following inspections of food preparing places were made by the Sanitary Inspector:—

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	49
Other food preparing places	...	...	...	...	...	...	21

(c) Foodstuffs condemned during 1947:—

Canned Goods: Meat, 284 tins; Fish, 80 tins; Milk, 216 tins; Vegetables, 2,094 tins; Soup, 43 tins; Preserves, 17 tins; Spreads, 36 tins; Fruit, 22 tins; Cheese, 2 tins; Honey, etc., 4 tins; Puddings, 1 tin; Sausages, 12 tins.

Other Goods: Cheese, 1 pkt.; Chocolate, 20 lbs.; Sweet Relish, 6 gals.; Fish Cakes, 36 dozen; Tea, 12 lbs.; Cereals, 47 pkts.; Cereals, 34 lbs.; Pearl Barley, tons 5, cwts. 11, qtrs. 1, lbs. 26; Pickles and Sauces, 9 bottles.

Meat (including Bacon): $667\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. (Beef $606\frac{1}{2}$ lbs., Bacon 61 lbs.).

(d) Ice Cream: The Food and Drugs Act, 1938, which came into operation on the 1st October, 1939, makes it compulsory for all premises used for the sale, or manufacture for sale of ice cream, to be registered with the Local Authority. Number of premises registered, 16.

Thirteen samples were submitted for bacteriological examination to the County Laboratory. No pathogenic organisms were found.

SECTION F.**PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.****Supply of Serum.**

Diphtheria Anti-Toxin is provided by the Council free of charge, and supplied to Medical Practitioners for the use of the inhabitants of the district. A supply is kept at the Health Office. 92,000 units were issued during the year.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

A scheme for the immunisation of children against diphtheria was adopted and put into force at the end of the year 1940. At the end of the year 1947 the results of seven years' immunising were as follows:—

Number of Children Immunised.

Under 5 years.	From 5 to 15 years.	Total.
1,044	2,447	3,491
57.71%	81.83%	72.84%

Notifiable Diseases during the Year 1947.

Disease	AGE PERIODS.											Total	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
	0	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	25	45	65			
Scarlet Fever	—	—	1	1	1	3	—	2	1	—	—	9	4	1
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	5	5	1
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	2	3	1	2	6	5	3	22	—	—
Measles	2	8	16	12	10	49	11	—	3	2	—	113	2	—
Whooping Cough	3	4	7	5	8	9	2	—	1	—	—	39	—	1

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during the Year 1947.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
10	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	1
25	3	3	—	—	1	—	—	—
35	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55	2	1	—	1	4	—	—	1
Total	15	5	1	2	6	1	1	2

Included in the above tables are two cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and one Non-Pulmonary which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health through the Death Returns.

Cases of Tuberculosis Remaining on Register, Eastry R.D., December 31st, 1938 and 1947.

MALE				FEMALE			
Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
1938	1947	1938	1947	1938	1947	1938	1947
43	107	19	31	43	64	33	42

Verminous Persons.

There are no facilities in this district for the cleansing and disinfection of verminous persons.

Disinfection.

The isolation hospital has a disinfecting plant, and all infected clothing and bedding is sent there for disinfection. During the year 14 batches of clothing were dealt with in this manner.

Number of premises disinfected, 18.

Scabies.

Under arrangement with the Deal Town Council all cases of scabies in the district are sent for treatment to the Council's Cleansing Station.

DOVER RURAL DISTRICT.**SECTION A.****STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.**

The district is bounded roughly as follows:—On the North by the Rural District of Bridge-Blean and Eastry and the Borough of Deal. On the East by the sea. On the South by the Borough of Dover, the sea and the Borough of Folkestone, and the West by the Rural Districts of Elham and Bridge-Blean.

Area (including inland water), 26,098 acres.

Population, estimated 1947, 9,145.

Number of Inhabited Houses, 2,790.

Rateable Value, £84,267.

Sum represented by a 1d. rate, £341 5s. 9d.

Density of Population, persons per acre, 0.35.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

(1) Births.

						Total.	M.	F.
(a) Live Births	...	...	...	...	...	234	136	98
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	217	125	92
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	17	11	6
Birth Rate (per 1,000 of population)						= 25.5		
England and Wales						= 20.5.		
(b) Still Births	...	...	...	...	...	8	6	2
Rate per 1,000 total births						= 33.05.		

(2) Deaths.

						Total.	M.	F.
Net total Deaths in 1947	...	...	...	...	...	112	62	50
Death Rate (per 1,000)						= 12.2.		
England and Wales (per 1,000)						= 12.		
Deaths from Puerperal Causes, nil.								

(3) Infant Mortality.

Deaths under 1 year:—

						Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	9	5	4
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—

Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births) = 38.4.

 England and Wales (per 1,000 live births) = 41.

Causes of death:—

Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	...	1
Congenital Mal-Development	...	...	...	...	...	6
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	...	1
Gastro-Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total	...	...	...	...	...	9

(4) Deaths from:

Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	22
Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	—
Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	—
Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	1	

DOVER RURAL DISTRICT.

Causes of Death in Year 1947.

Causes of Death.		Males.	Females.
All Causes	...	62	50
Respiratory Tuberculosis	...	2	—
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	...	—	—
Pneumonia	...	2	—
Syphilitic Disease	...	1	1
Influenza	...	1	—
Cancer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	4	1
Cancer of Breast	...	—	3
Cancer of All Other Sites	...	7	7
Heart Disease	...	20	13
Other Circulatory Diseases	...	3	1
Intra-Cranial Hæmorrhage	...	7	11
Diabetes	...	1	—
Bronchitis	...	3	2
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	1	—
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	1	—
Diarrhœa under 2 years	...	—	1
Other Digestive Diseases	...	—	1
Nephritis	...	2	4
Congenital Mal-Development	...	3	3
Premature Birth	...	1	—
Other Maternal Causes	...	—	2
All Other Causes	...	3	—

Of the total deaths Heart Disease accounted for 29.4 per cent., Intra-Cranial Hæmorrhage 16.07 per cent., and Cancer 19.6 per cent.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR.

The direct labour system of refuse collection and cesspool emptying worked very satisfactorily during the year, and Temple Ewell was added to the list of parishes in which collection of night soil is made by the Council. It was found that the large increase in cesspool emptying experienced last year was maintained, a total number of six hundred and three applications being received. This necessitated the introduction of a double shift on the cesspool emptier in order to cope with the work. In view of the foregoing the Council agreed to purchase a second cesspool emptier. To increase the collection of waste materials a trailer was purchased and put into service near the end of the year with gratifying results.

During the year the new Ice Cream Heat Treatment Regulations came into force, but due to shortage of apparatus it has not been possible for all the provisions of the Regulations to be enforced. Generally, existing premises and also new premises registered were found to be of a high standard of cleanliness.

The position with regard to new houses did not improve as well as expected during the year, and in fact in August a ban was put on all private building with few exceptions. Under existing licences nineteen houses were built and fourteen were under construction at the end of the year. Under the Council's own housing programme fourteen houses were built and forty-six under construction. Repairs to existing properties were done within the limits imposed by Control of Civil Building Regulations, and by confining these repairs to absolutely essential work a large measure of improvement was effected to premises neglected during the war years.

Space does not permit mention here of many other important matters dealt with during 1947, but these can be seen in the detailed report following.

Once again I would like to conclude by thanking my staff for their unfailing services at all times.

W. O. ARMSTRONG, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.,
Sanitary Inspector.

Water.

Some 93% of the houses in the Rural District are well supplied with water from the public mains. Two small areas at Alkham and Capel are still under consideration for a mains supply, but owing to the expense no action has yet been taken.

Reports on monthly samples taken from the public water supply show that the water is quite satisfactory.

During the year a further thirty-two houses were connected to the main water supply.

Drainage and Sewerage.

There are no sewerage schemes in operation in the area. Sewage is disposed of by means of cesspools, privies and pail closets.

Number of Cesspools in district, 1,581.

Number of earth closets in district, 100.

Number of pail closets in district, 1,120.

Schemes for the sewage of the following Parishes: (1) Capel-le-Ferne, (2) Whitfield, (3) River, Temple Ewell, Lydden and Shepherdswell, (4) St. Margaret's and Ringwould, were submitted to the County Council for their observations in accordance with the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1944, and approved in principle. They were then submitted to the Ministry of Health, but owing to the restriction on capital expenditure it has not been possible to take any further action.

Public Cleansing.

The collection and removal of domestic refuse, the emptying of cess-pools and collection of pails has been carried out by direct labour and has worked very satisfactorily. It was decided to purchase a second cesspool emptier.

Salvage.

This is under the supervision of the Senior Sanitary Inspector, who reports on the year's work as follows:—

Weights of material collected (paper only), 4 tons 2 cwts.

The amount received for the material was, £17 18s. 9d.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

- (1) Number of inspections made during the year, 1,672.
(2) Number of notices served, Statutory 1; Informal 61.
(3) Nuisances and defects remedied during the year:

Sanitary Accommodation:

- | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| (a) Insufficient | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 15 |
| (b) Defective | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |

Drainage:

- | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| (a) Reconstructed | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 14 |
| (b) Cleansed | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 |

Cesspools:

- Repaired 5
 Emptied 614

Dampness

- Roofs and Rain Water Pipes 6
Doors 9

Walls and Ceilings

Water-San
Miscellane

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Written Notices
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ... ... ...	... 46	53	Nil
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities ... ... ... ...	... 11	17	Nil
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... — — —	... —	—	—
Total ...	57	70	—

2. Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Number of Defects Referred to H.M. Inspector
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—
Other Offences	—	—	—
Total ...	3	3	—

Shops Act, 1934.

Fifty-two inspections of shops were made, and any necessary instructions given in regard to ventilation, temperature, lighting and sanitary accommodation. No action was necessitated.

Verminous Premises.

Two complaints were received, and successful action taken to eradicate.

Destruction of Rats and Mice.

Gassing, trapping and poisoning are carried out by a part-time Rodent Operator. Seventeen infestations were reported and cleared.

Camping Sites.

There are 5 sites registered in the District, viz. Capel 2; Hougham 2; St. Margaret's Bay 1.

SECTION D.**HOUSING.**

The programme of repair of war damaged houses terminated at the end of the year. Houses were inspected upon complaint, and notices served in the case of urgent repairs being required. Five hundred and fifty-two Building Licences and six Certificates of Essentiality were issued. Nine hundred and fifty houses were inspected under the Rural Housing Survey.

Number of inspections made for that purpose, 1,025.

Number of inspections made with regard to the issue of Building Licences, 312.

Number of houses owned by the Local Authority, 22.

Number of houses under construction, 46.

Number of Nissen huts converted, 11.

During the year the Council's post-war Housing Programme, entailing the construction of 266 houses was proceeded with and at the end of the year 14 houses were completed and 46 under construction.

The 266 houses are allocated as follows:—

Alkham, 24. Capel, 12. Coldred, 12. Denton, 2. East Langdon, 14. West Langdon, 6. Guston, 6. Hougham, 22. Kingsdown, and Ringwould, 20. Lydden, 15. St. Margaret's, 31. Shepherdswell, 12. Temple Ewell, 50. Whitfield, 30. Wootton, 10.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk.

During the year the Sanitary Inspector made 260 visits to cowsheds and dairies; fifteen defects were found and remedied.

(a) Number of Producers in the District, 85.

Number of Producer Retailers, 45.

Number of Retailers, 6.

Number of farms licensed to produce:

(1) Accredited Milk, 13.

(2) Tuberculin Tested Milk, 6.

(b) Twenty-seven samples of milk were submitted to the County Council's laboratory for bacteriological examination. Details of the samples submitted and results were as follows:—

Accredited Milk, 17 (6 failed).

T.T. Milk, 10 (3 failed).

Milk in Schools.

Inspection of herds and farm premises were made as required to ensure the suitability of the milk for this purpose.

Meat and Other Foods.

The slaughter houses in the district were closed down at the outbreak of war, and the meat supply is now procured from the Government Slaughter-house and Wholesale Meat Supply Depot.

The following inspections of food shops were made by the Sanitary Inspector:—

1. Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	46
2. Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
3. Other Food preparing places							22

Foodstuffs condemned during 1947:—

Canned Goods: Meats, 35 tins; Fish, 9 tins; Soup, 1 tin; Milk, 174 tins; Fruit, 21 tins; Vegs., 2 tins; Preserves, 9 jars; Sausages, 12 tins.

Meat, 613 lbs. Beef; 10½ lbs. Sausages; 9½ lbs. Bacon.

Fish, 6 stones Mackerel.

Other Goods: 1 cwt. potatoes; 12½ lbs. Margarine; 2 boxes Cheese; 10 Meat Pies; 10 lbs. Spaghetti; 24 lbs. Semolina; 8 lbs. Peas; 8 lbs. Beans; 25 lbs. Oatmeal; 25 lbs. Soup Powder; 25 lbs. Prunes; 105 lbs. Cake; 1½ lbs. Butter; 45 lbs. Macaroni; 82 lbs. Rolled Oats; 160 Swiss Rolls; 42 jars Pickle; 1 jar Onions; 1 tin Mustard; 1 tin Orange Juice; 3 packets Ryvita.

Ice Cream.

The Food and Drugs Act, 1938, which came into operation on the 1st October, 1939, makes it compulsory for all premises used for the sale, or manufacture for sale of ice cream, to be registered with the Local Authority.

Number of premises registered, 6.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Supply of Serum.

Diphtheria Anti-Toxin is provided by the Council free of charge, and supplied to Medical Practitioners for the use of the inhabitants of the District, in accordance with the Diphtheria Anti-Toxin (Outside London) Order, 1910. 36,000 Units were issued during the year.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

A scheme for the immunisation of children against Diphtheria was adopted towards the end of 1939, and came into force at the end of 1940.

At the end of 1947 the results were as follows:—

Number of Children Immunised.		
Under 5 years.	From 5 to 15 years.	Total.
306	658	964
34.76%	53.93%	45.9%

Verminous Persons.

There are no facilities in the district for the cleansing and disinfecting of verminous persons and their belongings. Under arrangements with the Borough of Dover cases are sent to the Isolation Hospital.

Disinfection.

The Rural District Council does not possess a disinfecting plant, but all infected bedding and clothing is sent to the Dover Isolation Hospital for disinfection, and during the year 6 batches of clothing were dealt with in this manner. Number of premises disinfected 11.

Scabies.

Under arrangement with the Dover Town Council cases of scabies are sent to the Isolation Hospital for treatment.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1947.

Disease.	AGE PERIODS.												Total.	Admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.	
	0	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	25	35	45	55	65			
Scarlet Fever . . .	—	—	2	—	—	4	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	10	10	—
Diphtheria . . .	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Measles	2	2	6	9	3	34	13	1	1	1	—	—	—	72	4	—
Whooping Cough . .	—	—	—	3	2	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	—	—
Pneumonia . . .	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	4	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Polio-Myelitis . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Meningitis . . .	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Erysipelas . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	1	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during the Year 1947.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
10	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
35	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	3	5	2	1	2	—	—	—

Included in the above totals is one case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health through the Death Returns.

Cases of Tuberculosis Remaining on Register Dover R.D., December 31st, 1938 and 1947.

MALE				FEMALE			
Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
1938	1947	1938	1947	1938	1947	1938	1947
23	45	5	11	13	45	9	12



